

Weather Today: Cloudy.

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WASHINGTON, D. C. THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 1914.—FOURTEEN PAGES.

ONE CENT.

VILLA POORS TERRIFIC FIRE INTO TORREON

Bombardment of Federal Position Continues Throughout the Day.

DISPATCHES ARE MEAGER

Rebel Leader Reports Murderous Assault on Stronghold to Juarez Officers.

FEDERALS ARE HOLDING OUT

Setback to Constitutionalists Is Reported, Following Strict Censorship Over Telegraph Lines.

Mexico City, March 25.—There is a persistent rumor here tonight that the rebels fell into the hands of the federal forces at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon. Five federal generals are said to have been killed. The report says that Gen. Velasco was spared by the rebels.

El Paso, March 25.—A fierce bombardment of Torreon and Gomez Palacio was begun by Gen. Villa's artillery, commanded by Gen. Felipe Angeles and Col. Mariano Servin, early this morning and continued throughout the day. This report has been given to the press from Gen. Manuel Chao's headquarters in Juarez. The information is based on official advices received from Gen. Villa, filed at El Verjel, five miles north of Gomez Palacio, which, Juarez officials say, is the constitutionalist base.

Whether Villa was driven from Gomez Palacio—which in official dispatches Monday night was reported to have been occupied by constitutionalists in the first charge in the opening of the Torreon struggle—is not known by Juarez officials as they explain that the information conveyed in official dispatches is meager. They further explained that they never have known whether Villa's army occupied the whole of Gomez Palacio or only a part of the city.

Four Shot Into City.

Added to the message received at Juarez was the information that Villa's cavalry and infantry were operating along with Gen. Angeles' batteries, and that a fierce rifle fire was being poured into Torreon and Gomez Palacio from all sides. Official messages stated that the two federal strongholds were surrounded. The telegraph line which on Tuesday was operating to Gomez Palacio was only in communication with El Verjel today.

At the fortress in Juarez it was not known by the officials whether Villa cut off the federal line in Torreon from Gomez Palacio by throwing his troops into the neck of the isthmus connecting the two towns.

Unofficial reports of fighting and of victory in engagements at this "neck" were that 200 of a federal force of 300 had been captured and fifty-eight had been killed, the constitutionalist losses being insignificant. That Villa himself is at El Verjel directing the operations of his troops from that place is admitted by constitutionalist officials in Juarez. Chihuahua, as well as Juarez, is without divisions from the front. No word has arrived in Chihuahua, although there is an unconfirmed report there that a train load of wounded had been started from El Verjel.

Villa Routed, Is Reported.

Villa's army was reported driven from the outskirts of Torreon, after a terrific battle of the federal garrison, and routed toward Gomez Palacio. A federal force of 600 men was reported to have been killed and dying upon the field, in a telegram from Mexico City to J. H. Smith, a wealthy American who has extensive interests in Mexico.

According to the message, which is evidently based upon reports telegraphed from Gen. Velasco, the federal leader in Torreon, to the Huerta government, the federalists have checked the constitutionalist attack on Torreon.

The message confirmed a belief which was being growing here all day. It was argued that if Villa had been victorious in his onslaught upon Torreon, he would have lifted the embargo upon the telegraph wires running northward to Juarez and allowed the entire world to learn of his sweeping victory over the Huerta forces. A strict press censorship has been maintained by the constitutionalists since early morning.

Federalists Holding Own.

Mexico City, March 25.—The rebels are attacking in force, but holding heavily. We are more than holding our own. War Department officials tonight announced the receipt of the foregoing dispatch from Gen. Velasco, federal commander at Torreon. It was transmitted to President Huerta immediately.

Though Velasco gave no details of the fighting in this message it served to end the rumors that the troops at Torreon had been routed and surrendered the town to the army of Villa.

WHITE HOUSE DENIES NIGHT CONFERENCE WITH MEXICAN

Specific denial was made at the White House yesterday of reports that President Wilson held a conference with General Velasco, the Mexican Ambassador, Tuesday night. The President at no time has had an interview or been in communication with Velasco and no news proposals from the Huerta administration have been presented to this government.

MRS. ASTOR "CONVERTED."

New York, March 25.—Mrs. Waldorf Astor has become a Christian Scientist, according to a statement made today by her sister, Mrs. Reginald Brooks, who arrived from England on the Olympic.

"My sister underwent two serious operations during the past year, but the news of it was kept secret," said Mrs. Brooks. "Despite the operations Mrs. Astor did not seem to improve. Christian Science was suggested and she tried it. She now is a very enthusiastic Scientist."

Matinee, "The New Henrietta," today, 2:15, Columbia, 5c to 15c.

TWO BROTHERS WED SISTERS; NOW THERE'S A DOUBLE HONEYMOON

Clarence and Roy Beach marry Misses Mabel and Susie Davis.

Two brothers, Clarence L. Beach, twenty-three years old, and Roy C. Beach, twenty-one, living at 375 M street northwest, yesterday applied for marriage licenses, Clarence naming Miss Mabel R. Davis, twenty-two, and his younger brother giving the name of Miss Susie L. Davis, twenty years old, the sister of Miss Mabel, as their prospective brides.

Rev. B. D. Gaw, pastor of the West Washington Baptist Church, Thirty-first and N streets, performed the double ceremony yesterday afternoon, marrying the two brothers to the two sisters.

They left on a double honeymoon.

SITE OF NEW CAPITAL CHURCH IS SELECTED

At Baltimore Conference It Is Estimated That Methodist Structure Will Be in Mt. Pleasant.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Baltimore, Md., March 25.—The Baltimore Conference of the Southern Methodist Church, which includes the churches in the District, Maryland, and parts of Virginia, convened here today.

Bishop Collins Denny, of Richmond; Bishop E. E. Ross, of Nashville, Tenn., and Bishop W. A. Candler, of Atlanta, Ga., were present.

Bishop Denny is presiding. Bishops Candler and Ross are members of the site committee for the proposed new \$300,000 Southern Methodist Church at Washington, and this was primarily the cause of their visit to this city just at this time. They came over to see Bishop Wilson, who is ill at his home here.

It was learned from Bishop Denny that this committee has about decided upon the site for the structure in Washington, which is to be one of the handsome church edifices in this country. While they would make no definite statement as to just where the new structure is to be located, it is believed that in view of the progress of the real estate enterprises toward Mount Pleasant and the northern suburbs of the city, the site will be in that vicinity. Bishop Candler praised the generosity of the Baltimore conference in pledging \$5,000 for this church, \$10,000 of which has already been paid in.

PRESIDENT'S FOES START ROW ON TOLLS REPEAL

New Jersey Assembly in Uproar When Nugent Democrat Introduces Resolution of Protest.

Trenton, March 25.—Never have such scenes of excitement and disorder prevailed in the legislature of New Jersey as those of today, when Frank A. Foley, of Essex County, a Democrat, offered a resolution in the house of assembly to put that body on record as opposed to the proposed repeal by Congress of the law exempting coastwise shipping from tolls on the Panama Canal. It was killed by a vote of 35 to 15, nine of the Republicans and six of the Democrats helping the Wilson Democrats win out.

The resolution was referred to the judiciary committee. Assemblyman Quigley attempted to have the committee referred to the floor, but was declared out of order, and the uproar came when both Quigley and Walter McDermott demanded recognition and refused to obey the speaker's demands to take their seats.

Foley, Quigley, and McDermott are New Jersey Democrats and opposed to President Wilson.

Mr. Branigan, Democratic floor leader, declared further consideration of the resolution of assemblymen to introduce resolutions criticizing the national government. This move by Mr. Branigan had reference not only to the Panama resolution, but also to one introduced by a Republican criticizing President Wilson's Mexican policy. The Branigan resolution was defeated, 14 to 65.

M'CARRICK BOY NOW THOUGHT TO BE DEAD

Detectives Begin Search of All Houses in Neighborhood of His Home.

Philadelphia, March 25.—The search for seven-year-old Mark M'Carrick took a new and sensational turn today, when detectives began a house-to-house canvass in the neighborhood of the boy's home on the theory that he has been kidnapped by a neighbor and either is held a prisoner or has been murdered and his body buried.

"It is only a question of time before we get a clew," declared Detective O'Connor, leader in the search. "I can not get it out of my head that Warren M'Carrick has been taken away by some man who has abused him. I believe the boy has been murdered and his body may be buried in the cellar of a house right near his home."

Search is being continued for a man who disappeared from the neighborhood at the same time as the boy. The suburbs of the city and all vacant houses in the city limits have been searched without result. Several sly camps have been searched.

The police now are on the trail of a covered wagon or the "prairie schooner" type which passed near the boy's home the day of his disappearance. The boy was seen talking with the driver of the wagon when the latter stopped to water his horses. The M'Carrick family today received more letters demanding ransom for the return of the boy.

FOREIGN AVIATORS BARRED.

New York, March 25.—No foreign aviators will be given licenses to fly in exhibitions in this country by the Wright Company. "Looping the loop" and other sensational flying before American spectators is looked upon by the Wrights as the sole privilege of American aviators, according to Lincoln Beachey, one of the most daring aviators in the world, who applied to the Wrights for a license today.

SAFE CRACKERS ARE CAUTIOUS.

Zanesville, Ohio, March 25.—After going through the National Hotel and looking in all the guests and the proprietor, safe crackers early today broke in the door of the New Concord postoffice, thirteen miles east of here, blew open the safe and escaped with \$70 in money and stamps.

THE SAME, BUT DIFFERENT.



"ADVERTISE IN PRESS TO WIPE OUT ALLEYS"

Miss Harlean James, of Baltimore, Tells How Newspaper Publicity Aided Women's Campaign.

ADDRESSES CIVIC FEDERATION

"Advertise your wants in newspapers and also talk with them over with your husbands, if you want real results."

Such was the advice given the women's section of the National Civic Federation at Raucher's yesterday afternoon by Miss Harlean James, of Baltimore. The alley and housing conditions in Richmond and Baltimore and the methods employed to improve them comprised Miss James' subject, and many District women connected with the alley campaign here heard her with intense interest.

"I would advise against the use of pamphlets, however," said Miss James. "A very heavy expense is incurred in printing and distributing them and in most cases those who receive them throw them away without so much as glancing at them. Therefore, through the newspapers we sought to educate the women of Baltimore, counting on their influence with their husbands for civic improvement, and the results were astonishingly good."

Miss James said that many high board fences enclosing filthy yards and vacant lots had been removed through the women's campaign and that demand clean food in the public markets. The result of this was that storekeepers were eventually compelled to improve the sanitation about their places.

Gustav A. Weber told of the results of one year's activity in Richmond, Va., and agreed with Miss James that newspaper advertising was the surest and best way of interesting the public in such work.

Archibald Hopkins presided and announced that the society would not meet again until after the passage of the District alley bill, which is now in committee.

GEN. GORGAS ON WAY HOME.

London, March 25.—Fresh from the honor conferred upon him yesterday, when he received the degree of doctor of science from Oxford University, Surg. Gen. Gorgas, who is the second American to be thus honored by the historic university, sailed for home today on the Kaiser Wilhelm II. Col. Gorgas has been treated as a hero during his stay in England because of his fame for conquering tropical diseases during the building of the Panama Canal.

VAUDEVILLE DEAL PENDING.

Kansas City, Mo., March 25.—Negotiations for the absorbing of the Sullivan & Considine Co. vaudeville brokers, by the Marcus Lowe Enterprises, of New York, are proceeding here today between the heads of both circuits and their attorneys.

\$100,000 FIRE IN COLLEGE.

Raleigh, N. C., March 25.—One hundred thousand dollars' damage was caused today by fire that swept through the College of Technology here. Students assisted the firemen in preventing a spread of the flames, organizing a bucket brigade to protect surrounding buildings.

PRINCESS JILTS GREEK HEIR.

Paris, March 25.—A Bucharest dispatch to the Echo today said that Princess Elizabeth, of Roumania, has jilted Prince George of Greece, to whom she was betrothed shortly after the Balkan war. The proposed alliance of the two families was for political purposes.

SUPPRACTIST LEADER DEAD.

Chicago, March 25.—Mrs. Frances Squire Potter, supracrist leader and educator, died today. For several years she held the chair of stymology in Brooklyn Institute.

SOMEBODY STOLE ZOO'S OTTER.

Dr. Baker Now on Trail of New Fur Coat.

A cheap fur, yes! Somebody who admired one of the finest otters in National Zoological Park and thought it would make a fine fur for his wife or sweetheart and incidentally save him the price of several suits of clothes for himself, just carried the animal off bodily, and now every watchman at the zoo is trying to pick up the trail of the thief.

It was taken within the last three or four days. It was seen at its usual haunts last Saturday.

"No doubt it was stolen," said Dr. Frank Baker, superintendent of the zoo last night. "It was a magnificent animal and surely will make a fine fur for somebody. I don't know how many we have left, and I don't know where that one came from. We have to buy most of our animals. I suppose it is good-bye to this one."

Dr. Baker said he could not understand how anybody could have made off with it in daytime without being detected. At night the guard is, of course, less vigilant.

THEY'RE "ON" TO HIM NOW.

Little Cuban Lad Makes Third Vala Attempt to Enter U. S.

Special to The Washington Herald.

New York, March 25.—We have with us again Hermus Sander. He arrived today on the steamship Hippolyte Dumois from the rum-scented breezes in the West Indies. A few days out of Havana Hermus discovered in the hold among the bananas.

Hermus is one of the most intrepid invaders of this country. He is a Cuban, fourteen years old, and this is the third time in his young experience that he has attempted to enter port as contraband human merchandise. A year ago he was brought here on one of the Lampart & Holt steamers. On that occasion, when the vessel was a day out from Havana, he was found floating on a coconut palm and there was nothing for the vessel's captain to do but carry him on to New York.

It was then found that he had tried to run through the immigration lines a year before. He was sent back by the immigration authorities and will go back this time in the Hippolyte Dumois.

ROCK WORRIES JOHN D.

Getting It Out of New York Will Be Herculean Task.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Tarrytown, N. Y., March 25.—John D. Rockefeller has encountered further trouble in the removal from New York City of the huge monolith, said to weigh 20 tons, which he is to bring here from Long Island. He applied to the village board for permission to use the streets and they refused to grant the request unless he furnished a bond.

The board of water supply in New York City when they learned that the rock will have to be taken across the old Croton aqueduct demanded that Mr. Rockefeller construct a steel structure over the highway to take the weight of the stone. The removal of the rock is to be a herculean task. Instead of horses, it is said a giant tractor, possibly two or three, will have to be used to draw the stone up the hillside.

The stone is to be placed in front of Mr. Rockefeller's new mansion and is to be cut into a fountain. It is said to be twenty feet in diameter.

"MAD AT EACH OTHER" 30 YEARS

But Civil War Romance Finally Ends at Altar.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Chicago, March 25.—Having been sweethearts since the close of the civil war, John M. Henderson, sixty-nine, and Mary Ann Coble, sixty-six, both residents of this country, were married at the city hall today. The lovers quarreled thirty years ago and it was not until yesterday that they made up and decided to get married. Henderson is a prosperous farmer and his bride is said to be wealthy.

W. H. UNDERWOOD DIES.

Chicago, March 25.—William Henry Underwood, assistant traffic manager of the New York Central lines in Chicago, died today. He was born in Rochester, N. Y., in 1834.

"JOB" OF DESCENDANT OF FORMER PRESIDENT IN MR. WILSON'S HANDS

Miss Mattie Tyler Will Lose Post-mistresship Unless Chief Executive Takes Action in Case.

Miss Mattie Tyler, granddaughter of President Tyler, has lost her job as postmistress at Courtland, Va. Her only hope to be retained now rests with President Wilson. The commission for B. A. Williams, as her successor, has been made out, and will be delivered him today.

Miss Tyler has held the Courtland postoffice position for twenty years. Time and again efforts have been made to oust her, and the President of the United States has always stood between her and the men who wanted her job. On one occasion the commission of her successor had been delivered him when President Roosevelt stepped in and retained her as postmistress by executive order.

B. A. Williams, who will succeed her, came to Washington to get his commission. There is a big stir in the Norfolk section of Virginia over the movement to oust Miss Tyler. It is understood that the salary she gets is the sole means of support of her sister and herself. The majority of the people of Courtland, it is said, want a new postmaster and are willing to pension Miss Tyler.

HOUSE LINED UP FOR TOLLS FIGHT

Debate on Sims Bill for Repeal Will Begin This Afternoon.

SWITCH BY REPUBLICANS

Twenty Decide to Oppose Administration, but "Wabbling" Democrats Are Going Over to President.

By JOSEPH P. ANNIN.

The House will commence debate on the Sims bill to repeal the tolls exemption clause in the Panama Canal act shortly after noon today. The opening skirmish will be on the adoption of a rule that will be brought in by the Rules Committee, limiting debate on the Sims bill to fifteen hours.

It is expected that general debate on the Sims bill will begin late in the afternoon, probably with a brief introduction by Chairman Adamson, of the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee, to be followed by the set speech of Majority Leader Oscar W. Underwood, who opposes the repeal.

Republicans found a marked trend of sentiment toward the President among Democratic members who have been set down as "wabbling," and a serious falling off in the Republican vote, which the President has counted on to carry the bill. At a meeting in the House Office Building late yesterday afternoon, more than twenty Republican members who had voted against the tolls exemption clause ultimately included in the Panama Canal act, determined to vote against the repeal as well. They will seek to justify this reversal on the grounds that they voted against the repeal amendments on economic grounds, but that as the President has taken the present controversy out of the field of economics, they do not feel as though they can support him.

Strictly Partisan.

The action of these Republicans is so patently dictated by partisan considerations that its adverse effect upon the President's prospects will be nullified to a large extent through the driving of additional Democrats to his support. While it may cut down to some extent the majority of his supporters in the House, it probably will not seriously affect the ultimate outcome either numerically or through its moral effect on Congress or the country.

Another reason for the change of a number of Democrats to the President's side is found in the fact that members have begun to "smell a mouse" in the memorials and resolutions which have been pouring down upon them, and to discern the fine hand of the shipping interests in the dissemination of ready-made pressopment sentiment to be signed, often by unthinking and uninformed individuals and associations.

Covert Attacks on President.

This trend of sentiment is being assisted by the work of Senators like Jones, Washington, O'Gorman, of New York, and Chamberlain, of Oregon, who are encumbering the Congressional Record with letters and telegrams which boomerang to the good of the President. The action of the extreme right in the Senate yesterday on the Chamberlain resolution indicated that opponents of the repeal bill are cutting the ground from under their own feet by covert attacks upon the President's motives in urging the introduction in the Congressional Record of expressions of opinion and action upon the Panama Canal tolls. In many instances, from irresponsible sources, the President's mission work of the President's supporters in the House is being directed at Speaker Clark, whose attitude on the fight still is enshrouded in doubt. It is generally conceded that the Speaker inclines toward the opposition to the President and that he can dictate an uncomfortable number of votes in the House whichever way he turns.

Friends of the President continued yesterday to insist that the House of patriotism should determine the controversy in favor of the repeal; that party platforms and partisan politics should stop at the frontier and that the House of this country, they stressed the note sounded by Representative A. Mitchell Palmer, of Pennsylvania, who will be one of the leaders on the President's side, and who declared that opponents of the President must question openly either his sincerity and veracity, or his intelligence and judgment.

Reacts in Wilson's Favor.

Expressions offered in the Senate yesterday for the Congressional Record showed that criticism of the President along this line was of a nature to react to his good because of the acrimony and evident lack of judgment employed. Democrats who oppose the repeal do not wish to be placed in the same category as the writers of these communications.

Judge Adamson, who will lead the fight for the President's side, as well as other

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Hotel Woodstock, New York City, Comfort Without Extravagance—Adv.

ASQUITH DEALS BLOW TO ARMY

Military Aristocrats Will Never Dictate Government Policy, He Declares.

KING CLEARED OF BLAME

Home Rule Back Where It Was Before Controversy, but Internal Affairs Are in Chaos.

London, March 25.—Seldom has inner political history been so quickly and dramatically divulged as during the last twelve hours. Today the country has learned that when Gen. Gough visited London on Monday to gauge the demands of himself and his military colleagues that they should execute only such orders as accorded with their political beliefs, he was met halfway by War Minister Seely who, in conjunction with the cabinet, was waiting on orders from Buckingham Palace.

The cabinet drafted an inoffensive statement for Gen. Gough's benefit, defining the duty of soldiers to obey lawful orders. When Col. Seely returned from receiving his instructions from King George he found this draft and added a couple of paragraphs thereto, believing, according to his statement made in the House of Commons today that the original draft did not represent the complete cabinet document.

No War on Ulster.

The war minister's addition contained the incredible statement that the government "have no intention of taking advantage of this right (referring to the use of the force of the crown) to crush political opposition to the policy or principles of the home rule bill." In these words he admitted that while Sir Edward Carson can raise a 100,000 armed men to wage war upon Nationalists and home rule supporters, the British government would be denied the right of using its own paid forces against such rebels.

In fact, according to the Tory papers, Gen. Gough, upon receiving this statement, wrote underneath it: "Do we understand this last paragraph that we are not to be asked to take up arms against Ulster to enforce the present home rule bill and can we return and tell our fellow officers so?" Underneath it is alleged, Gen. French wrote: "This is how I read the paragraph." Later in the day the rest of the cabinet received a copy of the document and were amazed to find the unauthorized addition.

Pied Out Too Late.

Premier Asquith immediately attempted to have the document withdrawn, but it was too late. Gen. Gough has returned to Ireland triumphantly with it in his possession.

Lloyd George thereupon intimated that it was a question either of his or War Minister Seely's resignation. That would have meant the resignation also of both Winston Churchill and Lord Morley. The cabinet managed to persuade Lloyd George to remain quiescent, and Seely tendered his resignation.

When the House of Commons assembled today no one knew what was going to happen. Although the policy of sedition in the army was to be debated, the temperature of the session also of both the Tories had become quiet. Labor's violent counterblast of the night before had terrified them and shown them to what result their tampering with the army might lead.

When War Minister Seely took the floor he was white as a sheet. He admitted that he had resigned and asserted with unnecessary emphasis that the King had taken no initiative in the matter, but remarks elicited an expression of scorn from both Liberals and Labor members.

Later, Mr. Asquith, in refusing to accept Seely's resignation added, with asperity: "I claim that in regard to all these matters his majesty has observed every rule which comports with the dignity of his position as constitutional sovereign."

Death Blow to Tories.

Mr. Asquith's speech was a death blow to the introduction of the bill, which had been led to believe that henceforth the army was to be the sole instrument of aristocracy, and that it could be used unhesitatingly against organized labor, but on no account could be hurried.

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CONGRESS IN BRIEF.

SENATE.

Warm debate was excited by reading into the Record by Senator Jones, of Washington, letters criticizing proposed repeal of the exemption clause of the Panama Canal act.

Smith cotton futures bill was made unfinished business. The bill permitting postal savings deposits to be loaned on farm mortgages.

Secretary of State Bryan discussed general arbitration treaty before Committee on Foreign Relations.

Committee on Banking and Currency authorized Senator Hollis to employ expert to draft rural credits bill.

Flea of Capt. Tompkins M. Potts, U. S. N., retired, to be restored to active list, was denied by Committee on Naval Affairs.

Adjourned until noon today.

HOUSE.

Hensley bill prohibiting importation of goods and merchandise made wholly or in part of convict or pauper labor was passed on voice vote.

House devoted remainder of day to discussion of Key bill providing for pensioning of dependent widows and orphans of soldiers who served in war with Spain or the Philippine insurrection. No vote was taken.

Opposing factions in forthcoming fight over tolls repeal bill spent day in lining up recruits. Repeal measures probably will be reached early this afternoon.

Director George Otis Smith, of Geological Survey advocated before Public Lands Committee administration bill for leasing of coal, oil, and phosphate lands belonging to public domain.

Representative Bruckner, of New York, introduced bill providing for construction of \$1,000,000 armor plate factory in Bronx, New York City.

Bill extending thanks of Congress to Col. George W. Goethals and authorizing President to make him a lieutenant general was introduced by Representative Calder, of New York.

House adjourned until 11 o'clock today when the rivers and harbors bill will be rushed to passage in order that the special rule to consider the tolls repeal bill may be considered.